

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: NSS WORKING GROUP, JUNE 30,1978

CTB MESSAGE NO. 257

1. SUMMARY: AT NSS WORKING GROUP ON JUNE 30, SOVIET
TECHNICAL EXPERTS PROVIDED A WRITTEN LIST OF QUESTIONS ON
NSS EQUIPMENT DESIGN. STOKES (US) PROVIDED PRELIMINARY
ANSWERS TO SOME QUESTIONS AND PROMISED ADDITIONAL
DETAILS LATER. AS IN OTHER RECENT MEETINGS ON NSS, SOV
DEL ASKED SERIOUS, CONSTRUCTIVE QUESTIONS AND MAINTAINED
VERY POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE. END SUMMARY.

2. TARASOV (USSR) PROVIDED A LIST OF QUESTIONS FOR
STOKES TO ANSWER ON NSS EQUIPMENT. WHAT ARE THE DATA
PATHS SUGGESTED FOR THE COLLECTION AND TRANSMISSION OF
SEISMIC DATA THROUGH THE INTELSAT SYSTEM FROM EACH STATION
IN THE TERRITORY OF THE USSR TO THE US, AND FROM US
TERRITORY TO THE USSR? CAN THE US DEL PROVIDE A LIST OF
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THE FULL SET OF EQUIPMENT FOR A NATIONAL SEISMIC STATION,
INCLUDING NECESSARY ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE AND INSTAL-
LATION EQUIPMENT, DESIGNED BOTH DIRECTLY FOR THE STATION
ITSELF AND FOR DATA RECEPTION FROM IT AT THE RECEIVING
END? THE SOVIET DEL ASKED THAT SUCH A LIST BE PROVIDED,
WITH EXPLANATIONS OF THE DESIGNATED FUNCTION OF THE
ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE AND INSTALLATION EQUIPMENT. WHAT

EQUIPMENT WOULD BE USED TO INTERPRET THE DATA RECORDED ON TAPE AT THE NSS? FINALLY, THE SOVIET DEL ASKED THAT THE US DEL MAKE AVAILABLE THE CATALOGS GIVING INFORMATION ON THE PARTS LISTED IN THE DIAGRAMS WE HAD PROVIDED.

3. STOKES SAID INFORMATION ON DATA RETRIEVAL PLAN, EQUIPMENT LIST AND PARTS CATALOGS WOULD BE PROVIDED WHEN AVAILABLE, AND FINCH (US) LATER TOLD TARASOV WE WOULD DO OUR BEST TO RESPOND RAPIDLY. STOKES COMMENTED THAT MAINTENANCE WOULD BE INFREQUENT AND COULD BE HANDLED ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS BY REPLACING MAJOR MODULES, SO NO GENERAL LIST OF REPAIR EQUIPMENT WAS NECESSARY. FINCH ADDED THAT REPAIRS OF MODULES MIGHT BE MADE IN LABORATORIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES. THERE SHOULD BE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN EXPERTS OF THE TWO SIDES SO THAT US EXPERTS COULD PROVIDE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE. ON THE ORGANIZATION OF A DATA CENTER TO PROCESS DATA FROM THE NSS NETWORK, TURNBULL (US) NOTED THAT THE US HAD NOT SETTLED ON A PARTICULAR CONFIGURATION, BUT THAT THIS DID NOT SEEM TO PRESENT A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT PROBLEM.

4. TARASOV ASKED ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS DURING THE MEETING ABOUT THE EQUIPMENT COST OF A STATION AND HOW THE US PROPOSED TO CREATE THE ONE-HOUR DELAY IN DATA TRANSMISSION IT HAD SAID WAS ACCEPTABLE. STOKES SAID THAT CURRENT ESTIMATES WERE THAT EACH NSS WOULD COST ABOUT 600,000 DOLLARS, EXCLUSIVE OF INSTALLATION COSTS. IN REGARD TO
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THE ONE-HOUR DELAY, IT WOULD BE SIMPLER AND PREFERABLE TO HAVE NO DELAY AT ALL. WE HAD NOT DETERMINED HOW BEST TO ACHIEVE A DELAY IF ONE WAS REQUIRED, BUT POSSIBLY TECHNOLOGY EMPLOYED IN THE DIGITAL DELAY LINE COULD BE USED.

5. COMMENT: WE JUDGE QUESTIONS POSED BY SOVIETS IN NSS MEETINGS THIS WEEK AS SERIOUS AND CONSTRUCTIVE ONES, REFLECTING DESIRE TO CLARIFY THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF NSS EQUIPMENT AND OUR NETWORK PROPOSAL. TONE OF DISCUSSIONS CONTINUES TO BE VERY POSITIVE, WITH NONE OF THE TENTATIOUS QUESTIONS WHICH WERE COMMON TO NSS MEETINGS IN PREVIOUS ROUNDS. ACCORDINGLY, DEL BELIEVES WE SHOULD EXPEDITE RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS CITED IN PARA 2 ABOVE AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL MATERIALS REQUESTED BY SOV DEL. DEL REQUESTS THAT SUCH ITEMS AS PARTS CATALOGS BE SENT DIRECTLY FROM SANDIA BY FASTEST AVAILABLE MEANS. JOHNSON

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